

National Service Impact in Maryland

AmeriCorps

Volunteer Maryland develops volunteer programs with nonprofit organizations, government agencies, and schools. In the past 20 years, AmeriCorps members have mobilized 102,000 community volunteers who served 1.5 million hours valued at \$27 million. Each year, 32 AmeriCorps members serve statewide, generating volunteers and putting volunteer management practices in place to maintain the volunteer services after the AmeriCorps term of service. Over the last 10 years, 90 percent of sites reported an increased ability to manage volunteers as a result of the member's service. In surveys with sites from the last 10 years, 90 percent note that they sustained or improved their ability to recruit and manage volunteers. Volunteer Maryland also impacts the AmeriCorps members by reinforcing a lasting service ethic. In annual surveys, 85-90 percent of program alumni report that they continue to be actively engaged in service.

AmeriCorps NCCC

Project Crossroad is a nonprofit organization designed to promote education, provide encouragement, and help youth reach their full potential through a variety of programs. Since September 2010, Project Crossroad has successfully operated four programs for at-risk youth in Cecil County. AmeriCorps NCCC members supported Activate, a Project Crossroads summer program that provides a continuation of education during the summer months and offers structured physical activity for Cecil County students. Through the additional instruction and support provided by the AmeriCorps NCCC members, 960 hours of tutoring were completed and program enrollment was doubled to include four schools in Cecil County.

AmeriCorps VISTA

Carroll Community College realized that hunger and food availability created a barrier to retention and graduation for its low-income students. In response, Maryland/DC Campus Compact AmeriCorps VISTAs helped to create the Carroll Food Locker. The Food Locker for faculty, staff and students, offers a grocery assistance program, one hot meal per week, and a workshop series. More than 305 bags have been distributed (a \$8,000 cash value). The Food Locker received almost 7,000 pounds of food donations including 1,400 pounds from a Thanksgiving Food Drive. Twenty two turkeys were donated from the Foundation Board and Random House Publishing. During the fall semester, a workshop series provided 15 students with information on Carroll County resources, financial aid, and financial literacy. Twenty-nine of the 33 student clients enrolled in the program have been able to continue their CCC education.

Senior Corps

From October 2012 to September 2013, 39 Harford/Cecil County RSVP volunteers served 2,317 hours with the Home Delivered Meal (HDM) Program in Cecil County, Maryland. The HDM Program provides two meals, three days per week to homebound individuals (ages 60+ and Medicaid Waiver clients). During this time, 15,026 meals (including 415 non-perishable items for holiday/inclement weather closings) were delivered to 115 clients to ensure access to proper nutrition, improved health, and independence. Additionally, RSVP volunteers distributed quarterly nutrition newsletters to all HDM clients. During the reporting period, there were two instances when HDM/RSVP volunteers alerted Senior Services and Community Transit staff about a client who might need medical attention. These were not emergencies but could have escalated to something serious if the volunteers did not report their concerns.

Social Innovation Fund

Baltimore Workforce Funders Collaborative/Association of Baltimore Area Grantmakers was awarded an initial grant of \$600,000 over two years by Social Innovation Fund (SIF) intermediary Jobs for the Future, which they will match dollar-for-dollar. The SIF investment will allow the Baltimore Workforce Funders Collaborative to increase investment in workforce partnerships that focus on biotechnology, construction, and healthcare in the Greater Baltimore region. These partnerships emphasize the training and placement of low-income city residents, strong relationships with employers to determine industry needs, and bridge programs that offer literacy training so applicants meet program entry requirements. Each partnership has a strong track record of moving low-wage and low-skilled workers into career track jobs with family-sustaining wages. During a two-year span, the collaborative plans to serve 525 job seekers, placing 368 in jobs and 297 incumbent workers with 150 receiving wage increases.

Volunteer Generation Fund

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As a Volunteer Generation Fund grantee of the Maryland Governor's Commission on Service and Volunteerism, Business Volunteers developed "Service Ambassadors" with three goals: create improvements in the Baltimore region by connecting individuals and nonprofits to programs and services, spur volunteer participation and leadership, and develop an engaged volunteer corps that boosts nonprofit capacity. Over the past three years, Business Volunteers delivered training, mentoring, and support that equips volunteers with tools to maximize their impact. In addition to engaging 242 Service Ambassadors, Business Volunteers leveraged 2,256 new volunteers in 228 volunteer opportunities and developed 620 partnerships with organizations. Business Volunteers also coordinated 465 team volunteer projects and helped more than 100 nonprofits improve their facilities, clean green spaces and waterways, and deliver services to the community.